



ROYTON URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

AND

SENIOR PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

FOR THE YEAR 1967

Public Health Department,
Park Street,
Royton,
Lancs.

ROYTON URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

Chairman of the Council, 1967-1968

Councillor G. Day J.P.

Health Committee 1967-1968

Councillor G.A. Sidgwick
Councillor F. Butler

Chairman
Vice-Chairman

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"	W.C. Nixon
"	D. Ogden
"	J. Ogden
"	G. Sherratt J.P.
"	A. Taylor
"	J.E. Weston

Medical Officer Of Health

Gilbert R. Brackenridge M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.,
Town Hall, Royton.

Telephone No. MAIn (Oldham) 5271

Deputy Medical Officer of Health

Joan M. Curtis, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

Senior Public Health Inspector.

C. Buckley, M.A.P.H.I.

Deputy Chief Public Health Inspector.

Neil H. Morton, M.A.P.H.I.

M.R.S.H., M.R.I.P.H.H.

Meat Inspectors

John Salt, M.A.M.I., M.Inst.M., A.R.S.H.

John B. Smith, M.A.M.I., M.Inst.M., A.R.S.H.

Smoke Control Officer

J. Spence

Clerk/Typist

Mrs. J. Billington

Public Health Department,
Park Street,
ROYTON.
October, 1968.

To: The Chairman and Members of the
Royton Urban District Council.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

In accordance with Paragraph 15(5) of the Public Health Officers Regulations 1959, I submit this, my Annual Report on the Public Health and allied services in the District for the year ended 31st December, 1967. The general format of the report is as in recent years but with certain amendments of text and tabular material.

The total population of the District continues to increase and the mid - 1967 estimate of 17,610 is 710 more than the mid - 1966 estimate, and 3,134 (21%) higher than the last full (1961) census. There was a slight fall in the birth rate, with 346 live births giving a crude rate of 19.6 and an adjusted rate of 22.9 per 1,000 to compare with the national rate of 17.2. There was also a fall in the death rate, the 207 deaths registered giving a crude rate of 11.8 and an adjusted rate of 14.0 to compare with a national rate of 11.2. Although the rate is above the national average this is not in itself of major significance and it will be noted that 148 (70%) of the deaths are of those over 65 years of age, including 79 (38% of the total) over age 75. There has been no significant variation in infant mortality rates; as I have previously indicated in annual reports one must exercise great caution in interpreting fluctuations from year to year in a comparatively small total population.

The total notifications of infectious diseases were above those of 1966, due principally to the prevalence of measles in the first few months of 1967. This disease accounted for 231 of the total of 292 notifications. As in a number of other nearby districts, there was a slight increase in the number of scarlet fever cases notified; a number of national epidemiologists are understood to be taking a close interest in the variable virulence of the causative organism - the Streptococcus.

In later sections of the report members will note the continuation of new housing construction in the district with 240 new dwellings completed in the district during the year, and 106 were demolished in confirmed clearance areas or after representation as individually unfit dwellings.

In regard to Smoke Control, the third area, covering 1,100 properties in Thornham was submitted to the Ministry of Housing in January 1967, and became effective from December, 1967. At the end of the year a total of 1,659 dwellings were in Smoke Control areas. The fourth area covering 522 properties in the Thorpe/Middleton Road district was submitted to the Health Committee in December, 1967 and will become operative in November, 1968.

100% rate of Meat Inspection from the two slaughterhouses was maintained, and the credit for this is due to the willingness of your meat inspectors to work over-time when necessary. The total of animals killed is rather less than in 1965, largely as a result of restrictions on animal movement impaired during the Foot and Mouth epidemic in the latter months of the year. As a result of contraventions of statutory regulations, proceedings were taken against the owners of one local slaughterhouse, resulting in their being fined £95 and costs, at Chadderton Magistrates Court in May, 1967.

In July 1967, following upon a series of criticisms of the control of the refuse collection and disposal service, the Council decided to transfer this service to the direct control of the Deputy Chief Public Health Inspector, at the time of delivery of a third vehicle. I must record that I was opposed to this move not because of doubts that the Deputy Inspector could not, given the necessary authority and material support, discharge this task, but because such rigid division of responsibility could well cause administrative strain within the department. In the event, the collection service has been greatly improved, with the department having four vehicles available by 31st December, in place of two a year before, but the problem of disposal remains a cause for anxiety. At the time of writing the Ministry of Housing and Local Government have made it clear to Royton and a number of adjacent authorities including Oldham County Borough, that some form of collective disposal arrangement will have to be worked out by the authorities acting together.

As a matter for historical record, I must also record the fact that the Council decided to request the Ministry of Health to conduct an enquiry into the administration of the Health Department, with particular reference to complaints made against the Senior Public Health Inspector. The outcome of the Council's decision is still not known, but I was, and remain, of the opinion that the system adopted, gravely eroded the Health Committee's control over its own executive department.

Finally I should record that, during the year, the Department moved from within the Town Hall to premises in Park Street. While the latter are more commodious than the previous cramped accommodation, I must express the hope that our 'exile' will only be a temporary one.

I am, Mr. Chairman and Councillors,

Your Obedient Servant,

G.R. BRACKENRIDGE.

Medical Officer of Health.

General Statistics

Area in Acres		2,149
Population -	Census 1961	14,476
	Registrar-General Estimate 1967.	17,610
Number of inhabited houses at end of 1967.		6,424
Rateable Value		£592,049
Sum represented by penny rate		£2,375 estimated

Conditions of Locality

The Urban District Council was constituted in 1894, and took the place of the Local Government Board which had been in existence since 1863. The Council now consists of fifteen members; the district being divided into five wards (Dogford, Dryclough, Haggate, Heyside and Thornham), with three Councillors representing each ward.

It is situated in the south east of the County on the lower slopes of the Pennines, and is bounded upon the north by the County Borough of Rochdale and on the south by the County Borough of Oldham. The eastern boundary adjoins the Urban District of Crompton and to the west lie the Urban District of Chadderton and the Borough of Middleton.

The number of cotton mills has again declined and the cotton trade is losing its status as the principal industry in the district. Light engineering in its various forms appears to be taking precedence.

Vital Statistics

Live Births (Total):	...	346
	<u>Males</u>	<u>Females</u>
Legitimate ...	187	139
Illegitimate ...	11	9
Live Birth Rate per 1,000 population:		
Crude Rate	...	19.6
Adjusted Rate	...	22.9
Illegitimate Live Births per cent of total live births	...	5.8
Stillbirths:	...	5
Stillbirth Rate per 1,000 live and still births	...	14.0
Total Live and Still Births:	...	351
Infant Deaths (deaths under 1 year)	...	7
	<u>Males</u>	<u>Females</u>
Legitimate ...	3	3
Illegitimate ...	-	1
Infant Mortality Rates:		
Total infant deaths per 1,000 total live births:	...	20.2
Legitimate infant deaths per 1,000 legitimate live births	...	18.4
Illegitimate infant deaths per 1,000 illegitimate live births:	...	50.0
Neo-natal Mortality Rate (deaths under 4 weeks per 1,000 total live births:	...	14.4
Early neo-natal Mortality Rate (deaths under 1 week per 1,000 total live births:	...	14.4
Perinatal Mortality Rate (Stillbirths and deaths under 1 week combined per 1,000 total live and still births:	...	28.9
Maternal Mortality (including abortion)	...	Nil
Maternal Mortality rate per 1,000 live and still births:	...	Nil
Total Deaths (all ages)	...	207
Death rate per 1,000 population:		
Crude rate	...	11.8
Adjusted Rate	...	14.0
Principal Causes of Death:		
1. Diseases of Heart and Circulation	...	63
2. Respiratory Diseases	...	51
3. Cancer (all sites)	...	38
4. Vascular lesions of the Nervous System	...	26

(6)

SYNOPSIS OF CENSUS 1961 RETURNS

- (a) The following table shows the proportion of population falling into major working and dependant groups:

Total Population (both sexes)		14,474	100%
Child Population	Children under school age	1,102	7.5%
	School children aged 5-14	2,132	14.5%
	Total children under 15	3,234	22%
Men 15-64	'Working Population'	4,540	31%
Women	15-44 'Reproductive Pop.'	2,780	19%
	Aged 45-60	1,663	11.5%
Elderly Persons	Females 60 and over	1,558	10.5%
	Males 65 and over	669	5%
	Total Pensionable	2,257	15.5%

- (b) The following table shows the households in the district as classified by tenure and the presence of 4 specified 'amenities'.

Total Households			5,103	%
Tenure	Owner Occupied		2,778	54%
	Local Authority Owned		844	16.5%
	Rented Unfurnished		1,263	25%
	Other forms of tenure		218	4.5%
Amenities	Without Exclusive Use of	Cold water tap	14	-
		Hot water system	1,245	24.5%
		Fixed bath	1,889	37%
		Water closet	955*	19%
	With all four above amenities		3,120	61%

* In retrospect, the Registrar General's department have admitted this figure may be an under estimate.

Comparative Table of Principal Vital Statistics

		1967	1966	1962	1957	1947
Live Births	No.	346	370	305	202	326
	Adjusted rate	22.9	22.8	21.5	14.6	22.2
Stillbirths	No.	5	4	3	4	9
	Adjusted rate	14.0	10.7	9.7	19.0	26
Total (Live and stillbirths)						
No.		351	374	308	206	338
Total Infant Deaths						
	No.	7	8	7	3	12
	Adjusted rate	20.2	21.6	23.0	15.0	36
Maternal Deaths	No.	-	-	-	-	-
	Adjusted rate	-	-	-	-	-
Total Deaths	No.	207	238	211	192	190
	Adjusted rate	14.0	15.4	16.0	15.0	12.9

Infant Mortality - 1967

Cause of Death	Under 1 Day	1 Day to 1 Wk	1 Wk.to 1 month	1 month to 1 yr.	Total under 1
Pneumonia	-	-	-	2	2
Defined and Ill-defined diseases	-	-	5	-	5
Totals	-	-	5	2	7

DEATHS -- BY CAUSATION

CAUSES	M	F	1967	1966	1962	1957	1947
Tuberculosis-Respiratory	1	-	1	-	-	1	7
Other	-	-	-	-	2	-	-
Syphilitic Disease	-	-	-	-	1	-	1
Diabetes	-	-	-	-	-	-	2
Meningococcol Infection	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Other Infective & Parasitic Diseases	-	-	-	1	-	-	-
Malignant neoplasms -							
Stomach	1	2	3	5	6	10	6
Lung and Bronchus	15	2	17	7	3	5	4
Breast	-	3	3	2	-	2	1
Uterus	-	1	1	1	1	2	2
Other	10	4	14	18	14	12	24
Leukaemia, Aleukaemia	1	1	2	-	-	1	-
Vascular lesions of the nervous system	12	14	26	30	29	21	17
Coronary disease - Angina	21	10	31	41	37	19	-
Hypertension with heart disease	-	-	-	2	1	6	-
Other heart disease	10	15	25	27	37	41	61
Other circulatory disease	3	4	7	16	10	6	5
Influenza	-	-	-	3	5	6	1
Pneumonia	9	14	23	28	8	12	6
Bronchitis	16	8	24	14	25	12	9
Other diseases of the respiratory system	2	2	4	3	3	3	2
Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	1	1	2	3	4	1	-
Gastro-Enteritis and diarrhoea	-	2	2	1	1	1	3
Nephritis and Nephrosis	-	-	-	4	-	-	3
Hyperplasia of prostate	1	-	1	-	1	1	-
Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion	-	-	-	-	-	-	2
Congenital malformations	-	-	-	1	2	4	4
Other defined and ill-defined diseases	3	9	12	26	15	17	27
Motor Vehicle accidents	1	2	3	2	-	-	-
All other accidents	2	2	4	3	3	5	2
Suicide	1	1	2	3	3	4	1
TOTALS	110	97	207	238	211	192	190

DEATH - BY AGE GROUPS

YEARS	M	F	1967	1966	1962	1957	1947
Under 1	3	4	7	8	7	3	12
1 - 5	1	1	2	1	1	3	1
5 - 15	-	1	1	-	-	1	2
15- 25	1	-	1	1	-	-	2
25 - 45	1	1	2	7	7	6	15
45 - 65	35	11	46	58	51	51	46
65 - 75	34	35	69	67	79	56	61
Over 75	35	44	79	96	66	72	51
TOTALS	110	97	207	238	211	192	190

PREVALENCE OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES
1967

Statistics

The following tables show the number of cases of infectious diseases notified, age groups, and a comparison with notifications in previous years.

Notifiable Diseases	Total cases at all Ages	Total Notified cases in age groups									
		0+	1+	3+	5+	10+	15+	25+	45+	65 and over	Age not known
Measles	231	15	72	78	64	2	-	-	-	-	-
Scarlet Fever	21	-	2	6	12	1	-	-	-	-	-
Whooping cough	3	1	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Dysentery	35	1	12	11	4	-	4	3	-	-	-
Tuberculosis-											
Respiratory	2	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-
Other	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Food Poisoning 'suspect	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Totals	292	17	87	96	80	3	6	3	-	-	-

Comparison Infectious Diseases

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES	1967	1966	1962	1957	1947
Chicken pox	-	-	-	-	28
Diphtheria	-	-	-	-	3
Dysentery	35	68	38	89	-
Erysipelas	-	-	-	2	-
Measles	231	134	49	63	201
Meningococcal Infection	-	-	-	-	-
Pneumonia (Acute)	-	-	-	8	3
Poliomyelitis(Non Paralytic)	-	-	-	-	2
Puerperal Pyrexia	-	-	2	-	-
Food Poisoning	-	6	-	4	-
Scarlet Fever	21	15	6	9	5
Whooping Cough	3	7	-	10	8
Tuberculosis					
Pulmonary	2	3	2	8	-
Non-pulmonary	-	-	-	2	-
Ophthalmia neonatorum	-	-	-	1	-
Totals	292	233	97	196	250

Diphtheria

Although it is now eighteen years since the last case of Diphtheria occurred in the district, the occasional small outbreaks reported in the country serve as a reminder that for our present freedom from this disease, we are primarily dependent on the maintenance of a high level of active immunisation in the child population.

Dysentery

There was a decrease, from 68 to 35 cases, in the prevalence of this disease in the district as compared with 1966. This disease is generally recognised to serve as a fairly sensitive index of local standards of food preparation and personal hygiene. Most cases are fortunately mild, but the disease has a considerable nuisance value, and involves Public Health Department staff and the Laboratory services in considerable work in collection and examination of specimens.

Food Poisoning

No case was notified in the district.

Measles

This year there was an increase in the cases of Measles from 134 in 1966 to 231 in 1967, principally due to prevalence of the disease at the beginning of the year. The majority were mild and in children of immediate pre-school or early school age group.

Poliomyelitis

No case occurred in the district during the year, and even the most convinced critic of immunisation must find it difficult to demonstrate reasons other than large-scale vaccination for the drastic decline in national incidence of this disease in the past 9 years.

Scarlet Fever

21 cases were notified in the district during the year. Generally speaking the causative organism of Scarlet Fever (the streptococcus) has lost a good deal of its former virulence, and, with being sensitive to a wide range of chemo-therapeutic drugs, the sporadic cases now reported are of a mild character.

Smallpox

There were no cases of this disease during the year. It must be appreciated that the proportion of infants now given routine primary vaccination within the first 2 years of life is totally inadequate to maintain adequate community resistance, and it seems that only by constant vigilance on the part of Port and Airport Health Authorities can occasional outbreaks of this disease in Britain be avoided.

Whooping Cough

3 cases were notified during the year. Assuming that the public, and especially parents of young children, are prepared to make use of modern immunological technique, this potentially dangerous infection should never again reach major proportions.

TuberculosisNew Cases and Mortality during 1967

Age Periods	New Cases				Deaths			
	Respiratory		Non-Respiratory		Respiratory		Non-Respiratory	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
Years								
0 - 15	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
15 - 25	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
25 - 45	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
45 - 65	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Over 65	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Totals	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
	<u>2</u>		<u>-</u>		<u>-</u>		<u>-</u>	

The number of cases of Tuberculosis remaining on the register at 31st December, 1967 was:

	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Total</u>
Respiratory	22	13	35
Non-respiratory	7	-	7
	<u>29</u>	<u>13</u>	<u>42</u>

This represents a net reduction of 4 cases in the year.

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES FOR THE AREA

The following services are administered by the Lancashire County Council through the No. 14 Health Divisional Office at 'Tylon', Middleton Road, Chadderton.

1. Maternity and Child Welfare Service
2. Midwifery Services
3. Health Visiting Service
4. Home Nursing Service
5. Vaccination and Immunisation
6. Ambulance Service
7. 'Care' and 'After Care' Services
8. Home Help Service
9. Mental Health Service
10. Care of Aged and Handicapped
(Under National Assistance Act.)

CLINICS

Regular sessions of the following clinics are held at Milton Street, Royton, as follows:

Ante-natal and post-natal - Every Wednesday afternoon at 2-0'clock.

Maternity and Child Welfare - Every Monday and Thursday afternoon at 2-0'clock.

HEALTH VISITORS AND SCHOOL NURSES

Three full-time Health Visitor/School Nurses are now employed, together with one School/Clinic Nurse, all being based at the Milton Street Clinic.

DAY NURSERIES

There is one 50 place day nursery at Radcliffe Street which is the responsibility of the County Council. There is also an industrial nursery as follows:

Monarch Mill Day Nursery

Application for admission to the Radcliffe Street Day Nursery, which is open daily from 7.30 a.m. to 5.30 p.m. should be made direct to the Matron. Charges are based on an income scale prescribed by the Lancashire County Council.

UNMARRIED MOTHERS AND ILLEGITIMATE CHILDREN

Provision for their care is made by the Lancashire County Council in conjunction with Voluntary Moral Welfare Organisations.

MIDWIFERY SERVICE

Three domiciliary midwives serve the district. The ante-natal clinic is held at the school clinic, Milton Street, on Wednesday afternoon at 2-0'clock. The midwives are:-

Miss M.L. Buckley 112 Sherriff Street, Rochdale (Rochdale 46389)

Mrs. A.A. Cheetham Chamber Road, Shaw. (SH9 7301)

Miss A. Turner 54 Milton Street, Royton. (MAIN 5669)

Nursing sisters: serving the district routinely are:-

Mrs. E. Brock. 2 Dale Square, Royton. MAIN 6593.

Mrs. M. Clarke. 42 Surrey Avenue, High Crompton. SH9.7618.

Mrs. N. Flynn. 3 Trent Avenue, Shaw. SH9.7268.

Mrs. F. Knight. 52 Richmond Avenue, Royton. 061-624-9062.

Miss S. Todd. 43 Albert Street, Royton. 061-624-2896.

Mrs. A. Whittaker. 76 Ney Street, Ashton-Under-Lyne. Ladysmill 8623.

The services of a male District Charge Nurse, Mr. C.S. Croasdale, are available for certain cases, and there are also two relief nurses serving Royton and adjacent districts.

VACCINATION AND IMMUNISATION

Protective vaccination and immunisation is now routinely offered to all children against the following diseases: Smallpox, Diphtheria, Tetanus and Whooping Cough. Oral poliomyelitis vaccination is available for all between 6 months and 40 years of age, and certain other priority groups (e.g. expectant mothers) over 40 years. B.C.G. Vaccine (against Tuberculosis) is offered to school children found to be Tuberculin-negative at about 13 years of age. Measles vaccine has been available since the summer of 1968.

Arrangements for such immunisation may be made either to the school clinic or with Local General Practitioners.

AMBULANCE

The ambulance service is administered by the Health Division No. 14, ambulances being under Radio-Control from a control centre at Whitefield (WHI 6666). The district is served by vehicles based on Crompton and Middleton ambulance stations.

TUBERCULOSIS

The Chest Clinic is situated in the Oldham and District General Hospital where all suspected cases of Tuberculosis are referred.

HOME HELP SERVICE

Home Helps are available for various classes of illness, priority being given to maternity cases, the elderly and infirm. Application for the services of a Home Help should be made to the Divisional Medical Officer.

WELFARE SERVICES

Under arrangements made by the Lancashire County Council, residential accommodation for persons in need of care and attention not otherwise available, is now provided at seven hostels controlled by Health Division 14. There is, however, a waiting list for accommodation.

The statutory services comprising health visitors, home nurses, home helps and laundry service, co-operate with the voluntary bodies providing chiropody, home visiting, meals-on-wheels, etc., in order to enable old people to continue to live in their own homes, whenever possible.

CARE OF CHILDREN UNDER THE CHILDREN ACT 1948

The work in connection with Infant Life Protection and Adoption of Children is carried out by the Lancashire County Council.

The Area Children's Officer for this district is based at Jowett's Walk, Manchester Road, Ashton-under-Lyne, telephone No. ASHTon 4338/9.

SCHOOL HEALTH SERVICE

The Divisional Medical Officer and Assistant Divisional Medical Officer are also School Medical Officers. Clinics are held at Milton Street, Royton, as follows:

- | | | |
|----------------|---|--|
| Minor Ailments | - | Every Monday and Thursday morning. |
| *Ophthalmic | - | Alternate Monday mornings. |
| *Dental | - | Monday afternoon and Tuesday morning,
Wednesday afternoon and Friday morning. |

* By appointment.

HOSPITAL SERVICE

Hospitals normally utilised by patients from Royton are:

General and Maternity Cases - Oldham and District General
Hospital.

-- Oldham Royal Infirmary.

Infectious Diseases - Westhulme Hospital, Oldham.

- Monsall Hospital, Manchester.

Public Health Department,
Park Street,
ROYTON,
October, 1968.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

During the earlier part of the year, activity in the problem of unfit houses revolved in the main around a number of Public Enquiries and it is pleasing to note that with one exception, all the Orders were confirmed. These dealt with a further twenty five houses and although one cannot say that we do not have any unfit houses, the problem has eased itself considerably.

The progress made in Smoke Control Areas is very pleasing and in addition to the bringing into operation of our first large area a further area was prepared and presented for acceptance by the Council, thus bringing the total number of properties operating under Smoke Control Orders to 1668 with the addition of 522 properties awaiting confirmation.

At the close of the year the Department moved into temporary accommodation which does afford more breathing space, and one now awaits the fulfilment of the promised permanent accommodation.

It is somewhat disturbing to note that the Council found it necessary to refer certain matters to the Minister of Health for his consideration and it is hoped a fuller report will be to hand at a later date.

In conclusion, I wish to record my sincere thanks to Dr. Brackenridge for his help and guidance and also to members of the Staff for their help and co-operation during the year.

I am, Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your Obedient Servant,

C. BUCKLEY.

Senior Public Health Inspector.

SMOKE CONTROL AREAS

The Town now has three confirmed smoke control areas and at the close of the year in question, a third was being prepared for, consideration by the Council. It is pleasing to report this has since received confirmation.

The following table sets out the progress in this field.

Area	No. of properties	Date of Operation
1. Flake Lane	339	November 1959
2. Oozewood	220	September 1963
3. Thornham	1100	December 1967
4. R.U.D. No. 4 Area	522	November 1968

Progress has been maintained in this facet of our work, but owing to the financial situation of the country the last programme had to be curtailed. However it is pleasing to report that it was only a shortening of the programme and not a complete postponement. In order to comply with the Clean Air Act it means many existing firegrates have to be converted. Grants are available to the owner or tenant of properties needing conversions, totalling to 7/10ths of the approved costs of the reasonable conversions. 3/10ths from the Local authority and 4/10ths from the Ministry of Housing and Local Government. In areas where a large number of conversions are necessary, this can put a severe strain on the finances of a small authority and it is pleasing to report that since staff increases have been made, the Council have tentatively agreed to consider one area each year and for the programme to be completed within seven years. (1973)

ATMOSPHERIC POLLUTIONMeasurement

Various methods are available, depending on what particular constituent is to be measured. In common with the surrounding districts, Royton is a member of the South East Lancashire and North Cheshire Consultative Committee.

Briefly, the lead peroxide gauge, situated in Royton Park, consists of a louvred box containing a material coated with a chemical which reacts with the sulphur dioxide in the atmosphere. The chemical analysis of this instrument is taken monthly. With the volumetric instrument situated in the sewage works, air is drawn through a chemical solution, which retains the sulphur content of the air. The quantity of the air passing through the instrument is measured and so a more positive resultant figure is achieved. An attachment is incorporated with this instrument, which filters the air drawn into it, giving what is known as a 'smoke stain'; the results of the volumetric apparatus are collated each day.

Individual findings are subject to so many variable factors that a true interpretation of results in any district can only be based on repeated observations at a large number of points over a period of years. Nor can the results in any one district be fairly related to those in another, unless, amongst other things, the siting of the instruments are fully comparable. It is the practice in interpreting the results, to compare summer and winter periods with the like periods.

The following tables show the readings obtained for each month of 1965, 1966 and 1967 from the two instruments located in the district of Royton.

Estimate of Sulphur Dioxide expressed mgms

Mg. SO₃/day/100 cm² - Batch A.PbO₂

(Louvred Cover)

Site - Royton Park

Year	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.
1967	2.69	2.40	1.75	1.28	1.46	0.82	0.78	1.23	0.90	1.5	2.9	1.7
1966	2.74	2.66	1.73	1.95	1.25	1.11	0.58	0.92	1.13	1.59	1.76	1.88
1965	2.73	1.46	2.43	1.50	1.23	1.02	0.85	1.02	1.16	-	-	-

Volumetric Apparatus

Average Sulphur Dioxide Content Measured in

Microgrammes per Cubic Metre

Site - Sewage Works

Year	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.
1967	137	121	76	59	90	128	94	112	135	125	178	159
1966	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	134	138	94	127

Average Smoke Content

Measured in Microgrammes per Cubic Metre

Site - Sewage Works

Year	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.
1967	267	145	62	77	61	78	42	57	81	93	296	150
1966	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	142	155	181	176

WATER SUPPLY

The Urban District is supplied with water by the Oldham Corporation Waterworks Department from their moorland gathering grounds on the Pennine Range to the north east of Oldham. Royton is fed from the Piethorn and Hanging Lees reservoirs and all supplies are treated for pH correction and then chlorinated. The Oldham Corporation Water Works Department take weekly bacteriological samples from these two sources and in addition chemical samples are taken quarterly. Further samples are taken for bacteriological examination from premises throughout the whole area supplied by Oldham Corporation and during 1967 eleven such samples were taken within the Royton district.

11 samples were submitted by Oldham Corporation.

Results	
Satisfactory	Unsatisfactory
11	NIL

There are, however, a number of properties in the district which are supplied with water from private wells and springs. These premises, 28 in number, are situated in the more isolated parts of Royton, at Thorp, Royley Clough and Heyside (Bull Cote Lane). In the case of supplies from these isolated wells, advice on the usage of the water was given.

SEWERAGE AND DRAINAGE

Sewage is treated at the Council's Sewage Disposal Works at Streetbridge in detritus and precipitation tanks, afterwards passing through the percolating filters to humus tanks and thence the effluent is discharged into the River Irk. Sludge drying beds are provided. The only areas of the district without a proper drainage system are isolated farm communities and a few domestic properties.

FACTORIES

43 inspections were made during the year. These factories were found to comply with the requirements of the Act.

Although slow progress is being made, it is unfortunate that much of the routine work of inspections and surveys on these premises has to be left owing to the lack of time available to the inspector.

FACTORY ACT INSPECTIONS

1. INSPECTIONS for purposes of provisions as to health (including inspections made by Public Health Inspector.)

PREMISES	Number on Register	Number of		
		Inspections	Written Notices	Occupiers Prosecuted
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
* (1)	10	6	-	-
* (2)	79	37	-	-
* (3)	-	-	-	-
Total	89	43	-	-

- * (1) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities.
- * (2) Factories not included in (1) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority.

*(3) Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers' premises).

2. OUTWORK

Nature of Work	Section 110			Section 111		
	No. of out-workers in August list required by Section 110(1) (c) (2)	No. of cases of default in sending lists to the council (3)	No. of Prosecutions of failure to supply lists (4)	No. of instances of work in unwholesome premises (5)	Notices Served (6)	Prosecutions (7)
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)
<u>Wearing Apparel</u>						
Making etc.	3	-	-	-	-	-
Cleaning & Washing.	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total	3	-	-	-	-	-

PUBLIC CLEANSING

With the rapid growth of house building it is essential that the refuse collection service be kept up to strength. In this day and age it is expected that a weekly collection, at least, be maintained throughout the year. This does cause an increase in the cost of the service but the present day public expect a regular service.

The present composition of household refuse is such that it is increasing in bulk with less ash content, which causes many problems. Cover for the tip has to be transported to the site and the nature of the refuse occupies more space and does not consolidate as easily as in the past. Tipping space is being used up at a faster rate than has been known in the past. In order that the fullest use can be made of tipping space, which at the present time is at a premium, it behoves the authority to reduce the bulk of refuse to a minimum before tipping. This leads to consideration being given to increasing the rate of extraction of saleable items and/or the incineration of combustible items.

Following the presentation of a report on this important service early in 1966, the Committee unfortunately did not agree on the provision of a new additional collection vehicle. Permission was, however, granted to purchase a second-hand vehicle but this was not obtained until the summer of 1967.

In the first half of the year, efforts to maintain the service of emptying the dustbins with some regularity were made but at times with troublesome bouts of sickness this was not possible. Holiday time is another period when the rounds get upset as there are no workmen available to employ as temporary refuse collectors.

In July, 1967 the Health Committee decided to make the Deputy Public Health Inspector responsible for the collection and disposal of refuse and to report to them direct on the progress of this service.

This coincided with the addition of an extra vehicle followed shortly afterwards with the payment of a bonus to the workmen with an increase of one extra workman. These changes have resulted in the provision of a weekly refuse service and a man permanently on the tip in addition to the mechanical aid.

Towards the end of the year a new Dennis Paxit Major 111A vehicle was purchased and for the first time ever, it was possible to run the service and have a refuse vehicle in reserve thus the fleet is now able to save many hours of previously wasted labour because of breakdowns.

Whilst at the beginning of the year instructions were given by the Surveyor's Committee that the 990 David Brown tractor had not to be used for digging cover, it was only in the latter half of the year that in addition to the use of the tractor for levelling the refuse, use could be made as and when required of a hired tracked vehicle.

The joint meetings held in 1967 with the three adjoining authorities did not meet with any success in that no joint scheme was proceeded with.

The Minister of Housing and Local Government has recently again reiterated his general intent that Local Authorities ought to pool their resources and form joint disposal schemes. There appears therefore, to be little likelihood of a single authority being successful in their planning application until all other avenues have been fully explored to the satisfaction of the Minister.

DUSTBINS

The dustbins are replaced by the Council, the cost being borne by the rate fund. 341 dustbins were supplied during the year under this replacement scheme. In addition, 167 dustbins were sold principally to house-owners in new properties.

PAPER BALING

	Tons.	Cwts.	Qrs.		£	S	d
Amount baled during 1966	153	16	2	sold for	1230	6	0
" " " 1967	159	2	0	" "	1145	10	6

Price for paper reduced by £1.0.0. per ton in March, 1967.

SCRAP METAL

	tons	Cwts.	Qrs.		£	s	d
Amount collected during 1966	5	10	-	sold for	26	16	0
" " " 1967	8	15	-	" "	35	0	0

SANITARY ACCOMMODATION

The following table shows the approximate number of various sanitary conveniences in the district at the end of the year.

CLOSETS

Privy - midden closets	Nil
Pail closets	28
Trough closets	Nil
Waste water closets	225
Fresh water closets	6956

Of the 6424 houses in the district, less than 1% are not on the water carriage system but there still remains 225 waste water closets. During the year 10 waste water closets were converted to fresh water closets and over the past three years, 45 conversions have been carried out.

SHOPS AND OFFICES - 85 inspections of shops were made during the year.

Although this shows some improvement, I am convinced that it is only by the time consuming method of repeated visits and education that much of the improvements will come. Some success is being seen but is so far only in small amounts.

SWIMMING BATHS.

The Baths were extensively reconstructed in 1961-62.

The building now houses one plunge bath, 10 slipper baths, and 2 vapour baths.

The plunge bath is 75 feet long, 27 feet wide and a graduated depth along its length from 3 feet 3 inches to 6 feet 3 inches. The feed water in the plunge bath is supplied from the town's main, and there is a continuous circulation treatment of the water, whilst in use. Water being drawn from the deep end of the bath is chlorinated, filtered, reheated and finally aerated before being returned to the shallow end of the plunge. The time for a complete change of water through the circulatory system is $4\frac{1}{2}$ hours.

The temperature of the water in the plunge is maintained at approximately 76°F. , and tests to determine the alkalinity or otherwise of the water are taken three or more times daily as the circumstances demand. The figures maintained are:

pH value 7.8
alkalinity 2 p.p. 1,000,000

Chlorine

residual 1 p.p. 1,000,000
combined 1.5 p.p. 1,000,000

On one side of the entrance hall there are 5 slipper and one vapour bath for men, and on the other side of the hall are 5 slipper baths and one vapour bath for ladies. Sanitary accommodation is provided at suitable positions throughout the building.

The conditions of the baths have been fully satisfactory.

RODENT CONTROL

One trained Rodent Operative is employed part-time on this work. Regular surveys were made and all complaints given prompt attention. All sewers in the district received two treatments in accordance with the methods approved by the responsible Ministry, and routine inspections and treatments were made at other Council properties.

The South East Lancashire Advisory Committee meets twice yearly under the auspices of the Divisional Rodent Office, joint action is planned between representatives when necessary.

The following table shows the number of inspections and treatments carried out during the period under review.

Prevention of Damage by Pests Act 1949.

- (1) No. of rodent operatives employed - (a) Full time - none.
(b) Part time - one.
- (2) Action relating to rodent control during the year.

	Type of Property	
	Non-agricultural	Agricultural
a. No. of Properties in district.	6654	18
b. Total number of properties (inc. nearby premises) inspected following notification.	952	12
c. No. of (b) infested by rats	98	3
mice	80	-
d. Total number of properties inspected for rats and/or mice for reasons other than notification.	75	7
e. No. of (d) infested by - rats	10	NIL
mice	21	NIL

Any Other Action

Twice yearly treatment of Public Sewers in the District (March and September.)

FOOD PREMISES

91 visits were made to food premises during the year. With the constantly recurring emphasis on outbreaks of food poisoning and dysentery, this is not a happy state of affairs. All food premises should be regularly visited as a matter of routine, but this was an impossibility with the existing staff.

The following are the various types of premises in the district where food is prepared or sold.

<u>Type of Business</u>	<u>No.</u>
General Grocers and provision dealers.	58
Greengrocers and fruiterers.	15
Fishmongers.	1
Meat Shops (Butchers, etc.)	20
Bakers and/or confectioners.	36
Fried fish shops.	11
Shops selling mainly sugar confectionery, minerals, etc.	24
Licensed premises, clubs, canteens, restaurants, etc.	56
Others	8

Milk Supply

Milk distributors	49
Dealer's licences -	
pasteurised milk	6
sterilised milk	45
tuberculin tested milk	7
Supplementary licences -	
pasteurised milk	14
sterilised milk	15
tuberculin tested milk	15

Sampling milk is carried out by Officers of the Lancashire County Council.

BRUCELLOSIS

This year the herd infection with the organism of Brucella appears to have been well controlled but I would suggest this was a false state of security, in that much of the investigation into the presence or otherwise of this organism had to be withheld, because of the outbreak of Foot and Mouth Disease. The spread of Foot and Mouth Disease was so rapid that the strictest control of movement of animal and man was essential and visits to farms for anything less than an emergency was forbidden.

It is pleasing to report that the farmers gave their fullest co-operation during the sampling of the milk and for this I am sincerely grateful. Their readiness to do their best to improve the milk yield and to produce a good quality milk is to be commended. It is unfortunate that in these outbreaks of brucellosis, it results in some of the animals having to go for slaughter prematurely.

Total No. of Samples submitted = 10	Results		
	Positive	Negative	No result
(a) Tuberculosis	-	-	-
(b) Brucellosis - ring test	2	8	-
(c) " - culture test	-	2	-
(d) " - Biological test	-	-	-

SAMPLING FOOD

I am indebted to Dr. S.C. Gawne, County Medical Officer of Health, for the following particulars of samples taken within the district.

A total of 86 samples was obtained comprising 46 milks (of which 8 were Channel Islands milk) and 40 others as follows:

1 Bread and separate foreign matter	1 Sponge Cake mixture, sweetened.
2 Dried fruit.	1 Soft drink.
1 Cheese	1 Dried fruit.
2 Soup, canned.	1 Pork sausages
2 Butter.	1 Plain flour.
1 Golden Raising Flour.	1 Soft drink, canned.
2 Flour confectionery.	1 Marzipan.
3 Bread.	1 Tomatoes, canned.
1 Distaquaine V Tablets.	1 Condensed milk, skimmed, sweetened.
1 Sonalgin tablets.	1 Cake covering.
1 Beef sausage.	1 Cake mixture, sweetened.
1 Asmapax tablets.	1 Semolina.
1 Hynrosaluric tablets.	1 Table jelly.
1 Cough medicine.	1 Shredded suet.
1 Cod liver oil.	1 Jam.
1 Arrowroot B.P.C.	
1 Sweetening tablets.	
2 Ginger pudding.	

I give below details of those samples on which the County Analyst gave adverse reports:-

<u>Sample</u>	<u>Result of Analysis</u>	<u>Action taken</u>
Formal milk	Fat 2.95%. Deficient 1.6%	Vendor notified
Bread and separate foreign matter.	Contained 78 milligrams of dried dough contaminated with 1.7% iron oxide.	Complainant informed and bakers cautioned.
Beef Sausage	Contained 240 parts per million sulphite preservative (expressed as sulphur dioxide) without declaration.	Vendor interviewed and cautioned.
Bread	Contained 14 milligrams of dough discoloured with 0.6% of iron oxide.	Complainant and bakery notified.

<u>Sample</u>	<u>Result of Analysis</u>	<u>Action taken</u>
Sponge cake mixture, sweetened.	Sample contained a larva of brown house moth together with webbing and insect excrement. Also infested with booklice.	Remaining stock examined with a view to surrender.
Tomatoes, canned.	Contained 365 parts per million of tin, recommended limit 250 parts per million.	Further sample obtained.
Cake covering.	Contained permitted oil soluble artificial colour, 'Oil Yellow XP' without declaration in list of ingredients.	Manufacturers communicated with.
Flour Confectionery	Contained a piece of baked gluten weighing 0.215 gramme this had been slightly discoloured by mould growth.	Bakers cautioned and complainant informed.

UN SOUND FOOD

The following foodstuffs were found to be unfit for consumption on examination.

	<u>Cwts.</u>	<u>Qrs.</u>	<u>lbs.</u>	<u>ozs.</u>
Pate du chef.		1	-	7
Pickled cucumbers.		1	26	6
Tinned meat.		1	3	13
Tinned tongues			18	-
Mixed frozen foods.	1	-	8	-
Ox tongues.			24	-
Cooked ham.		1	20	-
	2	3	16	10

SLAUGHTERHOUSE & MEAT INSPECTION

This is the second year a full 100% meat inspection has been carried out and it is pleasing to be able to report this.

The figures in the following table, show a slight reduction in the number of animals killed as compared with 1966. This is no doubt the result of the unfortunate outbreak of Foot and Mouth Disease, which over-ran much of the country until well into the New Year. Even so, the throughput of the slaughterhouses can be equated to the provision of fresh meat for a population of 184,143.

The Regulations curtailing the number of hours of slaughter have proved their worth and I think in the main, the trade have realised that it is more economical to concentrate their throughput and not just 'red tape' on the part of the Local Authorities. However there have been occasions when the allotted hours have been extended but as, has been pointed out to the proprietors any increase in their trade beyond the output of their employees would indicate an increase in manpower and not an extension of the permitted slaughtering hours.

The hours permitted are as follows:

Monday	7 a.m. to 6 p.m.
Tuesday	} 7 a.m. to 5 p.m.
Wednesday	
Thursday	
Friday	
Saturday	7 a.m. to 12 noon.

One hour to be taken for lunch. The last animal to be killed one hour before finishing time.

CARCASE AND OFFAL inspected and condemned in whole or in part.

	Cattle excluding Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and lambs	Pigs
Number killed	8766	1695	164	57024	19088
Number inspected	8766	1695	164	57024	19088
All diseases except <u>Tuberclulosis</u>					
Whole carcasses condemned	1	1	10	2	44
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned.	2057	656	NIL	5178	5909
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than tuberculosis and cysticerci.	23.4%	38.7%	6%	9%	31.1%
<u>Tuberculosis only</u>					
Whole carcasses condemned.	-	-	-	-	-
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned.	-	-	-	-	1
Percentage of the number inspected affected with tuberculosis.	-	-	-	-	.0019%
<u>Cysticercosis</u>					
Carcase of which some part or organ was condemned	3	-	-	-	-
Carcase submitted to treatment by refrigeration.	1	-	-	-	-
Generalised and totally condemned.	-	-	-	-	-

The following amounts of meat were found to be unfit for food at the slaughterhouses.

		tons	Cwts.	Qrs.	lbs.
Other Diseases	- Offal	17	-	-	25
	- Carcase	5	6	-	15
		22	6	1	12
Tuberculosis	- Carcase	-	-	-	12
	- Offal	-	-	-	-
		-	-	-	12

The condemned meat is collected and disposed of by an approved trader.

HOUSINGNumber of new dwellings erected during the year.

1. By the local authority.	Maisonettes	NIL
	Flats	NIL
2. By other local authorities.	Houses	NIL
	Flats	NIL
3. By other bodies or persons.	Houses	240
	Flats	NIL

Total No. of dwellings owned by any local authority,
existing in district at end of year. 1249

Inspections of dwellings during the year.

1a. Total No. of dwellings inspected formally or informally for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts).	457
b. No. of inspections, formal or informal, made for the purpose	673
c. No. of dwellings in (a) above found to be not in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation but capable of being rendered fit.	81
2. Total No. of dwellings existing at end of year which were unfit for human habitation and not capable at reasonable expense of being rendered fit and in respect of which -	
a. Demolition, Clearance or Closing Orders have been made (at any time.)	66
b. Demolition, Clearance or Closing Orders have not yet been made.	-

Houses Demolished (a) In or Adjoining Clearance Areas:

1. Houses unfit for human habitation.	100
2. Persons displaced during year from houses to be demolished or closed.	126
3. Families displaced during year from houses to be demolished or closed.	42
(b) Not in or Adjoining Clearance Areas:	
4. As a result of formal or informal procedure under S.16 or S.17(1), Housing Act 1957.	6
5. Persons displaced during year from houses to be demolished or closed.	30
6. Families displaced during year from houses to be demolished or closed.	6

Unfit Houses Made Fit.

1. By owners after informal action by local authority.	62
2. After formal notice under Public Health Acts.	6

* House Purchase and Housing Act 1959 and Housing Act 1961 and 1964 - Standard Grants.

No. of dwellings or
other buildings
affected

Action during year:

1. Applications submitted to local Authority for improvement to (a) Full standard	66
(b) reduced standard	-
2. Total applications approved by local Authority for improvement to (a) Full standard	65
(b) reduced standard	-
3. Work completed.	73
4. Particulars of any action taken relating to compulsory improvement of dwellings:	NIL

* With regard to the compilation of the above figures, I wish to express my thanks to the Engineer & Surveyor.

